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Hackney. New College

REPORT, &c.

JANUARY 21, 1789.

AT a numerous and reſpectable Meeting of the Governors and Subſcribers of the NEW COLLEGE among Proteſtant Diſſenters, for the education of their Miniſters and Youth, THOMAS ROGERS, Eſq; was called to the Chair; and the following Report from the Committee was read; *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

IT is with peculiar pleaſure that your Committee now announce to you the proſperous ſtate of the Inſtitution, which you have intruſted to their care. The new wing was completed in the courſe of the laſt Summer, and furniſhed for the reception of ſtudents at the commencement of the ſeſſion in September. The number of Students is now thirty-four; ſo that all the apartments in this wing, and ſeveral of the lodging-rooms in the center-building are occupied. Twenty-ſeven of theſe ſtudents are upon their own foundation; and ſeven upon the foundation of the Inſtitution. Twenty-one are deſigned for civil life, and the remaining thirteen are intended for the miniſtry.

Your Committee are happy in this opportunity of bearing public teſtimony to the improvement and irreproachable conduct of all the young gentlemen; and they

they feel a peculiar ſatisfaction in the aſſurance, that ſeveral of them are diſtinguiſhed by their abilities, application and acquirements, and are likely to reflect honour on the Inſtitution with which they are connected. They congratulate you on the ſucceſs which has already attended this laudable deſign, and they conſider it as a preſage of its continued and increaſing proſperity. The acceſſion of twenty ſtudents in one ſeſſion is very conſiderable, and affords an encouraging proſpect of the extenſive utility of this Inſtitution for the diffuſion of knowledge, liberty and virtue.

In this recompence of the liberality and zeal of its founders and friends, your Committee rejoice with you. They are animated by it in every exertion for promoting the improvement of the ſtudents, and preſerving the diſcipline of the college, as the neceſſary means of perpetuating the favourable opinion which the public ſeem to entertain of it. Theſe important objects engage the aſſiduous attention of the ſuperintending Committee and Tutors; and they have hitherto found no reaſon for diſſatisfaction and complaint.

You, Gentlemen, your Committee are perſuaded, will unite with them in wiſhing, that every young perſon, poſſeſſed of the requiſite qualifications, and applying for admiſſion, may be ſuitably accommodated in this College; and that the benefits of it may be rendered as extenſive as poſſible. With this view your Committee beg leave to ſubmit to your approbation the deſign which they have formed of proceeding with convenient ſpeed to the completion of the plan, long ago ſuggeſted by many friends of the Inſtitution—by erecting an additional wing on the weſt ſide of the center-building, correſponding to that on the eaſt. They feel the neceſſity of additional accommodations; and they would be ſorry

to reject any young gentlemen, who may apply, for want of room.

When they recollect the liberality which they have already experienced, they have no doubt of obtaining further assistance, and by adopting a plan similar to that pursued in the last year, as well as by a prudent management of their finances, of accomplishing this great design without changing the security of the permanent fund of the institution. An unknown benefactor has encouraged your Committee by a very liberal donation of 500l. They have also resources in a reversionary sum of 2000l. bequeathed by a very valuable friend, the late John Brown, Esq;—in the savings, which time may enable them to obtain from their annual income, and in the generous dispositions of those who are anxious for the prosperity of the Institution.

Their expenditures have been very considerable. The Institution is already in debt to the amount of 3200l. to those friends, who, in pursuance of the resolution of the last general meeting, have advanced loans for the purpose of preventing any interruption to the increase of the permanent fund; but they confide in the importance of the cause in the support of which they are engaged, and in the continued zeal and liberality of its friends.

The treasurers report, that 124l. 13s. 4d. being the third part of 374l. the amount of the unappropriated benefactions received in the last year, hath been passed or placed to the account of the permanent fund, in pursuance of the 3d resolution of the 21st July 1786; and that the balance in their hands, on the 31st of December last, appears to be 104l. 17s. 3d.

Your Committee further beg leave to inform you, that the house of the resident tutor is finished; and that Dr. Rees now resides in it.

When your Committee conſider the progreſs that has been already made in the accompliſhment of an undertaking, that originated in the zeal of a few perſons—When they recollect the acceſſion of countenance and ſupport which they have derived from the liberality of the friends of ſcience, liberty and virtue—and when they anticipate the extenſive and laſting benefit, which is the probable iſſue of the preſent undertaking, they feel no diffidence in the proſpect of what now remains to be done.

With aſſiſtance, in any degree correſponding to what they have already received, their whole plan will be eaſily completed; and future generations will applaud the activity and zeal, which have been the means of tranſmitting to them invaluable bleſſings.

The Report having been read, the following Reſolutions were unanimouſly agreed to, *viz.*

RESOLVED, That the report of the proceedings of the Committee, now read, is approved; and that the thanks of this meeting be given to the Committee, for the attention, diligence and zeal, with which they have exerted themſelves in favour of the Inſtitution.

RESOLVED, That the Committee be inſtructed to carry into execution the ſeveral meaſures pointed out in their Report, for building another wing, as well as for raiſing money, according to the plan of laſt year, and to take any other ſteps which they ſhall judge moſt likely to promote the credit and ſucceſs of the Inſtitution.

Six vacancies in the Committee having been declared, one of which is by death, *viz.* Richard Cooke, Eſq. and five by lot, *viz.* R. Bright, Eſq; Dr. Bayly, W. Ruſſell, Eſq; Edward Jeffries, Eſq; and Dr. Rees.——Reſolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed to ſupply the ſaid vacancies, *viz.* J. H. Stone, Eſq. R. Bright, Eſq. Dr. Bayly, W. Ruſſell, Eſq. Edward Jeffries, Eſq; and Dr. Rees, the five laſt being re-elected.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Thomas Rogers, Matthew Towgood, and Michael Dodſon, Eſqrs. for their paſt attention and trouble as treaſurers to the New Inſtitution; and that they be requeſted to continue their ſervices for the year enſuing.

RESOLVED, That Mr. Samuel Rogers be one of the truſtees of the permanent fund, in the room of Mr. Thomas Rogers, deceaſed.

RESOLVED, That the treaſurers be requeſted to make up their accounts at Michaelmas inſtead of Chriſtmas.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the auditors, Mr. Iſaac Thompſon, Mr. William Stone, and Mr. Daniel Turner, and that they be requeſted to be auditors for the year enſuing.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman.

THOMAS ROGERS.

9 Л 64

At a MEETING *of the* GENERAL COMMITTEE, *July 23d*, 1789.

RESOLVED, That the following Advertiſement be annexed to the Reſolutions of the laſt General Meeting.

THE Committee, whilſt they have the pleaſure of announcing the proſperous State of the Inſtitution under their care, beg leave, earneſtly to recommend it to the further patronage and encouragement of thoſe, who are convinced of its importance and utility. The expence of its complete eſtabliſhment and continued ſupport requires every liberal exertion. The ſums that have been already raiſed by loans, and that will be further neceſſary for finiſhing the building, and furniſhing its various apartments for the accommodation of Students, are very conſiderable. They incumber the Inſtitution with an annual charge, that diminiſhes thoſe reſources which they ſhould otherwiſe derive from the intereſt of the permanent fund, and the amount of the annual ſubſcriptions, and which they would be glad to appropriate to other purpoſes. The Committee are therefore conſtrained to renew their application to the friends of the Inſtitution, for ſuch donations, or annual ſubſcriptions, as may enable them the more ſpeedily to accompliſh the great object which they have in view.

9 JU 64